The main reason for the losses are as follows:

I) Continued upward increases in the value of foreign currencies vis-a-vis the Indian Rupee;

ii) Increase in the price of Aviation Turbine Fuel; and

iii) Absorption of fixed expenses like depreciation, insurance interest and financing charges etc. associated with A-320 fleet.

(c) No, sir,

(d) Indian Airlines has taken various cost reduction measures for reducing its losses.

Ragging in Collegas

2030. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps the Government propose to take to ban ragging in colleges which has assumed alarming dimensions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Government has drawn the attention of Vice-Chancellor of all Universities, Directors of IITs, Principal of Regional Engineering Colleges and Education Secretaries of all States/Union Territories to some recent incidents of ragging and requested them to take immediate steps to put an end to this undesirable activity and to provide new students conditions in which they feel welcome and conformable. Delhi University has passed a new ordinance on 5.10.1991 strictly prohibiting ragging within the premises of all colleges and Departments of the University as well as on public transport. It is expected that similar steps would be taken by other Universities where the practice of ragging prevails.

Birth Control Vaccine

2031. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
DR. G.L. KANAUJIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the birth control vaccine developed by the National Institute of Immunology has undergone the second phase of its clinical trials; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The Birth Control Vaccine based on Human Chorionic Gonadotropin developed by the National Institute of Immunology is presently undergoing Phase II clinical trials. There trials are expected to be completed in about 6 months where after the efficacy of the vaccine would be evaluated.

Pollution from Atomic Energy Plants

2032. SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had sought the views of the Atomic Energy Commitssion regarding the pollution from the Atomic Energy Plants;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?